



National Audubon Society  
225 Varick Street, 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10014

212.979.3196  
[www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)

February 27, 2019

Senator John Barrasso  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Environment  
and Public Works  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Thomas R. Carper  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Environment  
and Public Works  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper,

On behalf of Audubon's one million plus members, we would like to express our support for S. 383, the Utilizing Significant Emissions with Innovative Technologies Act (USE IT Act). This bipartisan legislation aims to facilitate additional research and development of carbon capture and storage technologies that reduce emissions.

The USE IT Act builds on the successful reform and extension of the federal 45Q tax credit by establishing a prize program for early-stage direct-air capture research and demonstration to spur investment and innovation in this technology. Removing CO2 directly from the atmosphere and developing viable mechanisms for permanent storage will be critical to achieving meaningful emissions reductions now and in the future.

Just like people, birds are facing a cascade of threats because of the changing climate. Rising seas and temperatures are shrinking and shifting the landscapes that sustain them. In 2014, Audubon published its Birds and Climate Change Report. The study shows that more than half of the bird species in North America could lose at least fifty percent of their current ranges by 2080 due to rising temperatures. These species include the Bald Eagle, the American Kestrel, and the Northern Harrier.

Audubon believes we need to pursue an array of common-sense, bipartisan approaches that reduce carbon emissions, and that carbon capture, utilization and storage is one of those elements. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, carbon capture and storage is vital to meeting mid-century goals for reducing carbon emissions.

Audubon appreciates the bipartisan leadership of Senators Barrasso and Whitehouse on S. 383 and we call on the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives to support a full range of policy solutions at the speed and scale necessary to address the threat of climate change. We look forward to working with you and members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works to protect human health, as well as birds and the places they need, now and into the future.

Sincerely,

Jesse Walls  
Senior Director of Government Affairs  
National Audubon Society

Cc: Senator Sheldon Whitehouse